

## II. Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Material to be inserted is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in strikeout or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double **bold brackets** [[ ]].

### Listing of the claims

1. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
2. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
3. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
4. **(PREVIOUSLY CANCELED)**
5. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
6. **(PREVIOUSLY CANCELED)**
7. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
8. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
9. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
10. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
11. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**
12. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A method of separating immunoglobulin G, [[a first]] an ionic protein compound of interest, from a protein sample having at least one additional different ionic protein compound using a selective cation-exchange adsorbent having a sufficiently low ionic charge density to ionically bind to the [[first]] ionic protein compound of interest, comprising the steps of:
  - (a) contacting a protein sample having containing immunoglobulin G and at least two different first and a second different ionic protein compound[[s]] consisting of protein A, with a selective cation-exchange adsorbent consisting of agarose beads having sulphopropyl groups attached thereto and having an ionic charge density from 10 to 100  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{ml}$ ;
  - (b) wherein the ionic charge density of the cation-exchange adsorbent is selected such that ionically binding the immunoglobulin G to the agarose beads having sulphopropyl groups attached thereto first ionic protein compound of interest binds to the cation-exchange adsorbent and the second different ionic protein compound is unbound to the cation-exchange adsorbent,

[[~~(b)~~]] (c) washing the cation-exchange adsorbent agarose beads having sulphopropyl groups attached thereto with a buffered solution to remove [[~~the~~]] unbound protein A second different ionic protein compound, and

[[~~(e)~~]] (d) applying a salt gradient of increasing conductivity to the cation-exchange adsorbent agarose beads having sulphopropyl groups attached thereto, and

(e) eluting the ionically bound first ionic protein compound of interest immunoglobulin G from the cation-exchange adsorbent agarose beads having sulphopropyl groups attached thereto.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 12, wherein the selective cation-exchange adsorbent consisting of agarose beads having sulphopropyl groups attached thereto has an ionic charge density from 20 to 90  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{ml}$  and comprises a sulphopropyl group.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 12, wherein the selective cation-exchange adsorbent consisting of agarose beads having sulphopropyl groups attached thereto has an ionic charge density from 30 to 80  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{ml}$  agarose beads having sulphopropyl groups.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of separating a protein A component from an immunoglobulin G component in a sample component using a selective cation-exchange adsorbent having sulphopropyl groups, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting the sample component comprising protein A and immunoglobulin G components with a selective cation-exchange adsorbent having sulphopropyl groups attached thereto and an ionic charge density from 10 to 100  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{ml}$  to ionically bind to the immunoglobulin G component, and

(b) washing the selective cation-exchange adsorbent with a buffered solution to remove any unbound components.

16. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 15, which further comprises

(c) applying a salt gradient of increasing conductivity to the selective cation-exchange adsorbent, and eluting the bound immunoglobulin G component from the selective cation-exchange adsorbent.

17. (PREVIOUSLY CANCELED)

18. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 15, wherein the selective cation-exchange adsorbent has an ionic charge density from 20 to 90  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{ml}$ .

19. **(CURRENTLY CANCELED)**

20. **(PREVIOUSLY CANCELED)**

21. **(NEW)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the selective cation-exchange adsorbent has an ionic charge density from 30 to 80  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{ml}$ .

22. **(NEW)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the selective cation-exchange adsorbent comprises agarose beads.